

THE RISING OF 5 THE SHIELD HERO

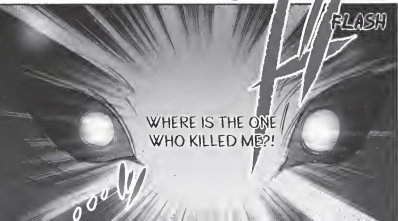
THE
MANGA
COMPANION

Aiya Kyu

Original Story by
Aneko Yusagi

Character Design by
Minami Seira

ONE PEACE BOOKS





RISE OF 5 THE SHIELD HERO

THE
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CHAPTER 17 IRON MAIDEN







MR.
NAOFUMI!



RAPH-
TALIA!

RA...



UWEEEN







AND NOW
SHE'S
FREAKING
OUT—JUST
LIKE THE
SHIELD OF
RAGE.

FILO
ATE THE
ZOMBIE
DRAGON
CORE...



AND IT
FEELS
STRONGER
NOW THAN
IT DID THE
LAST TIME.

I CAN'T
REALLY
CONTROL
IT
EITHER.



THAT
THING...

I'M
GETTING
TIRED
OF
THIS...



QUICKLY...



Lo
TWITCH



FILO IS
ATTACKING
EVERYTHING
INDISCRIMI-
NATELY.

IF
RAPHTALIA
HADN'T
STOPPED
ME, WOULD
I DO THAT
TOO?









**HATRED IS
MY ONLY
WEAPON.**







THESE
FLAMES
THAT
BURN
ME...

I KNOW
HOW TO
DO IT...

THEY'RE
STRONGER
THAN ANY
WEAPON...



SHIELD PRISON!

CLANG

CHANGE SHIELD (ATTACK)

- ANIMAL NEEDLE SHIELD
- BEE NEEDLE SHIELD

IT'S TELLING ME
WHAT TO DO...
I CAN SEE IT IN MY
HEAD...



**SHWEEEN
SHWEEEN**

**CHANGE
SHIELD!!**

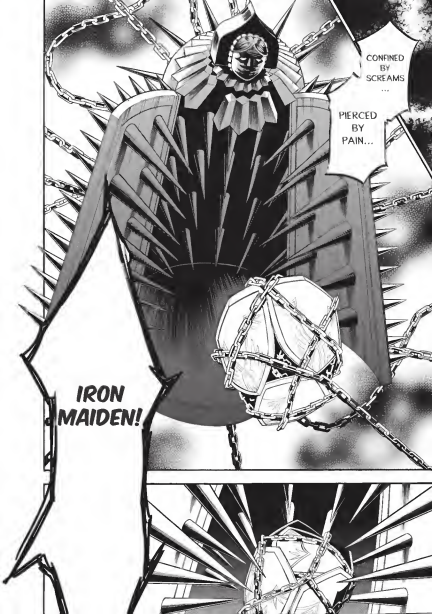


**BEE
NEEDLE
SHIELD!!**



IS TO BE
PIERCED
THROUGH
BY THE IRON
WOMAN...

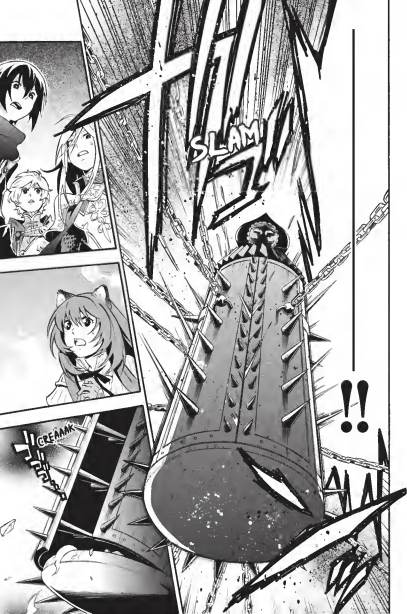
THE PUN-
ISHMENT
I CHOOSE
FOR THE
FOOLISH
EVIL...



CONFINED
BY
SCREAMS
...

PIERCED
BY
PAIN...

**IRON
MAIDEN!**





FWOOOOOOOSH



SLAM



SNAP!

MR. NAO-FUMI!



UGH





I DON'T THINK
I CAN FIGHT
ANY MORE...

I'M SO
EXHAUSTED...



DOOM



IT'S COLD.

....?

**THOSE LITTLE
MONSTERS
GAVE YOU A
HARD TIME?**

**WHAT'S
THIS?**





IT LOOKS LIKE
THERE'S ONLY
ONE REAL HERO
AMONG YOU.

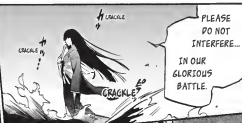


WHO ARE
YOU?-

WH...









MY NAME IS
GLASS.

I AM AN ENEMY
OF THE HEROES.



I'M
NAOFU-
MI.

...

VERY
WELL,
NAOFU-
MI.



LET'S
BEGIN...



THE REAL
BATTLE!

DAMMIT! THE SOUL
EATER WASN'T THE
FINAL BOSS?



I DON'T
THINK I
CAN...

RAPH-
TALIA!?





FWIP

CLANG

TOO SLOW.

SHE'S OVER THERE!

SHE'S FAST!

OUT OF THE WAY, I'LL USE MY MAGIC TO...



FWAP

GYAKUSHIKI YUKI SEKKA!!

CIRCLE DANCE ZERO FORMATION





CLANG!

IS THAT
ALL?

TAP

THEY'RE
WEAKER
THAN I
EXPECTED.

OH MY...



THOSE
LEGENDARY
WEAPONS
ARE CRYING.



YEAH...

CHRA-THUNK!

MASTER! THAT
LADY IS REALLY
STRONG!



SLAM!

WHAT CAN
I DO?

I DON'T
THINK...

SLAP

SHE
KILLED
A SOUL
EATER
WITH ONE
HIT...

FWISH

THE OTHER
HEROES
COULDN'T
HURT HER.



BA-BOOM!



MASTER!



SO YOU
WERE ABLE
TO BLOCK
ONE OF MY
ATTACKS....

WELL...

CLATTER
CLATTER



DAMN!





THIS ONE HAS GOOD
INSTINCTS WITH
THE SWORD.



CLANG!

AND
YET...





**RAPH-
TALIA!**

X SLIP

NAOFU-
MI...

WHY DON'T
YOU USE THAT
FLAME SHIELD
OF YOURS?



ARE YOU
MOCKING
ME?



DOES SHE THINK
I'M HOLDING
BACK?



IF YOU DON'T
WANT TO FIGHT
THEN YOU
LEAVE ME NO
CHOICE.

SLIP

THAT'S
TOO
BAD.



BUT I CAN'T
FIGHT ANY...

CLUNK



...

!



I'LL AT LEAST
MAKE YOU
REGRET THE
CHALLENGE.

IF I'M GOING
TO LOSE
ANYWAY...



COME AT
ME.

DA-DUM!

NOW
...

CHAPTER 18 BREAKING POINT









THIS SHIP
IS ABOUT
TO FALL
APART.

I THINK I
OVERDID IT
A LITTLE.

とっ
JUMP

WE'D BETTER
FIND A NEW
PLACE TO
FIGHT.

FOLLOW ME.

52
FWOOSH



I GUESS SHE THINKS SHE'S REALLY COOL...





I'LL END THIS.

I'LL...



TAP

ALRIGHT ...



NO MORE
HOLDING
BACK!!

DASH



THAT'S
EASY TO
SAY...



YOU
GOT
HER!

FWAP





COUGH...

THIS
PAIN...?

DID SHE
BREAK
THROUGH THE
SHIELD'S
DEFENSE?

SKID

DID SHE...

YOUR BLACK
FLAMES CAN
ONLY ATTACK
SOMEONE
NEARBY.

BUT I
SEE YOUR
WEAKNESS
CLEARLY.

WELL, YOU
SURVIVED
THAT
ATTACK.

THAT'S
PRETTY
GOOD.

IF I ATTACK
FROM A
DISTANCE...

YOU'RE
HELPLESS.

TAP

AND SHE
MOVES LIKE
A PRACTICED
WARRIOR.

SHE'S
INFERRING
CORRECTLY.

SHE'S AN
INTELLIGENT
MONSTER — NO —
A PERSON.

...BUT YOU
HAVE ANOTH-
ER TRICK,
DON'T YOU?

I'D HATE
TO END THE
BATTLE
WITHOUT
SEEING IT.

WHY DON'T
YOU SHOW ME
YOUR MOST
POWERFUL
ATTACK?

JUST WHAT
ARE THE
WAVES?

I THOUGHT
THEY WERE
A NATURAL
DISASTER!

GA-SHIM

SHIELD
PRISON!

CHANGE
SHIELD!

SHE'S
PLAYING
WITH ME...

IRON
MAIDEN
!!

CRUNCH!

I'LL
SHOW
HER!



THAT WAS MY LAST SHOT.



IT WASN'T AS
POWERFUL AS I
WAS EXPECTING.



BUT THIS
WAVE
BATTLE...

WAS A
VICTORY FOR
US.



WHAT A
PITY.

I HAVE NO
GRUDGE
AGAINST YOU
PERSONAL-
LY...



THE DARKNESS
IS COMING...

NO... NO, IT
CAN'T BE...



IF I DIE HERE....

CREEP

CREEP

CREEP



IT'S
TELLING
ME NOT TO
GIVE IN.
NOT TO
GIVE IN...

CRUNCH



00:59

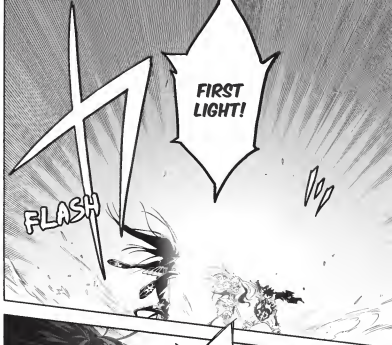
BA-BEEP

ALREADY?

NOW!

BUT IT'S
SO EARLY...

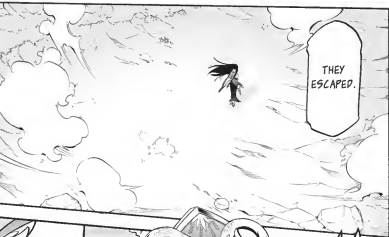
FWAP





WELL
WELL...

...



THEY
ESCAPED.



FILO,
COME ON!



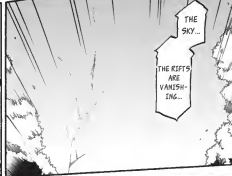
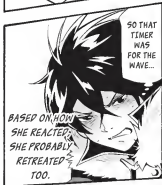
THERE
WAS NO
WAY TO
WIN!

THERE
...

YOU
HAVE
TO KEEP
RUN-
NING.

SHE'LL
KILL US!

BUT I'M
TIII-
TIRED...





...ARE
YOU
SURE?

WE'RE
DONE
HERE.

LET'S GO
BACK TO
THE VILLAGE
AND HELP
OUT.



I'M NOT
PLAYING
NURSE FOR
THEM. I
CAN'T DO
EVERYTHING.



ALRIGHT
...

WHEEN

ワウ



YOU'RE JUST
GOING TO LEAVE
THE MONSTER
MATERIALS
BEHIND?



IF THEY
DON'T GET
STRONGER...

THE OTHER
HEROES CAN
HAVE IT. THEY
NEED TO BE
STRONGER.



NEXT TIME
THEY'LL ALL
DIE.



YOU STOLE
SOME
OF OUR
TROOPS!





WHAT?
YOU CAN'T
LISTEN TO
THE SHIELD!

IT'S
NOT THE
HERO'S
FAULT!
WE CAME
BECAUSE...



TOOK
YOU LONG
ENOUGH TO
GET HERE.

I SHOULD
HAVE
EXPECTED
AS MUCH.



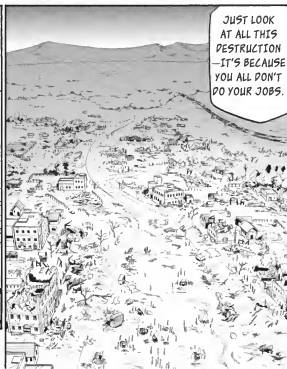
AH!
HE
HEARD
US!

THEY
HAVEN'T
CHANGED
MUCH.



OH — THE
OTHER HEROES
YOU LOVE SO
MUCH WERE
ALL BEATEN.
THEY'RE OVER
THERE.

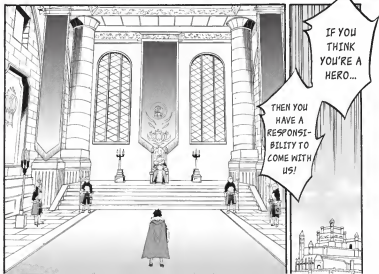
WHAT
?!



JUST LOOK
AT ALL THIS
DESTRUCTION
— IT'S BECAUSE
YOU ALL DON'T
DO YOUR JOBS.



HAVE THEM
SENT
TO THE
HOSPITAL.





WE ARE IN
YOUR DEBT.



SO YOU
HAVE
CALMED
ANOTHER
WAVE...

SHIELD.



TELL US.

BUT HOW DID
YOU GROW
MORE POW-
ERFUL THAN
THE OTHER
HEROES?

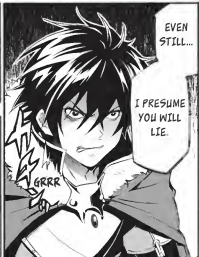


THANKS FOR
PRAISING ME
SO HIGHLY...



OF COURSE
YOU'RE
GRATEFUL

IF THE HEROES
LOSE, IT'S
THE END OF
THE WORLD.



EVEN
STILL...

I PRESUME
YOU WILL
LIE.



I'M A HERO
WHO SAVED
THE WORLD,
RIGHT?



**GET ON YOUR
KNEES AND
BEG FOR MY
HELP!!**

**IF YOU WANT
ME TO KEEP
YOUR COUN-
TRY SAFE...**

WHAT IS IT?
YOU SOUND LIKE
A MONKEY.

DON'T YOU
GET WHAT I'M
TRYING TO
SAY?

you...

RATTLE

RATTLE

you...

you....

y...

y..

y...





YOU...

**YOU
FOOL!**



I DO
NOW...

UM...
YES.



THE KING
OF THESE
LANDS...

IS LOWER
THAN A
MONKEY—
IS TRASH!



WHAT
ARE YOU
WAITING
FOR! TAKE
HIS HEAD!



...

THIS HAS
HAPPENED
BEFORE.

I'M A HERO
THAT BEAT
BACK THE
WAVE OF
DESTRUC-
TION.

YOU
REALLY
ARE
TRASH.

DO YOU WANT
ME COMING
AFTER YOU
NEXT?



WH...

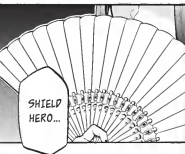
WH...
W...

WHAT?





**NEVER
SHOW
YOUR
FACE HERE
AGAIN!**







YOU HAVE
TO GO BACK
AND TALK TO
FATHER!



WHAT?



YOU CAN
DELIVER A
MESSAGE IF
YOU LIKE.

WHAT
WAS
THAT?



"I CAN KILL
YOU ANY TIME.
BE AFRAID."

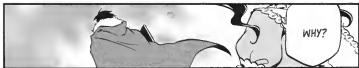


YOUR FATHER
IS THE BAD
GUY HERE. I'M
NOT.



SLIP

THE
END.





KID,
I MADE YOU SOME
STUFF. PUT IT TO
GOOD USE.

RUSTLE

THAT
GUY...

WHAT
IS IT?

AN ACCESS-
ORY FOR MY
SHIELD?

A POWER
GLOVE?

IT'S A
REPLACE-
MENT SWORD
— THE VERY
SAME ONE
I'D HAD.

IT WASN'T
CHEAP...

THE LETTER
CALLS IT
A "MAGIC
SWORD."

IT HAS
NO
BLADE.

POPO!

...AND
ANOTHER
SWORD?



HE MUST
HAVE
THOUGHT
WE KNEW
HOW TO
USE IT.

OKAY...

I'LL LOOK IT
UP LATER.



BUT THE
WEAPON
SHOP
GUY
TRUSTS
US.

WE'VE
NEVER
REALLY
KNOWN
WHAT
WE ARE
DOING...



ESPECIALLY
IF SHE
SHOWS UP
AGAIN.

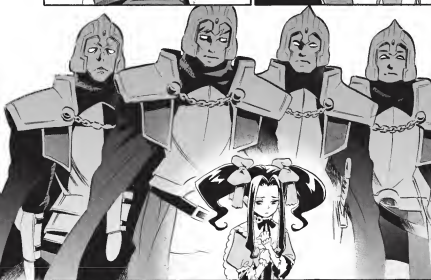
AT THIS
RATE, WE
WON'T
SURVIVE
THE NEXT
WAVE.



YEAH,
BECAUSE
WE CAN'T
CLASS-UP
HERE.

WE'RE
GOING
TO THE
DEMI-HU-
MAN
COUNTRY.
RIGHT?













I'M
SORRY...

A FEW OF
THEM GOT
AWAY.



HUH?

I... I
DON'T
KNOW...

SECOND
PRIN-
CESS!

AREN'T THEY
SUPPOSED
TO BE YOUR
BODYGUARDS?

WHAT'S
HAPPEN-
ING?

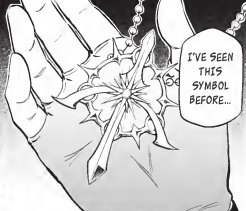
RUSTLE

WHAT'S



AT THE
CHURCH OF
THE THREE
HEROES.
IT'S A
ROSARY.

THREE
HEROES?



I'VE SEEN
THIS
SYMBOL
BEFORE...



NO!
WHO WOULD
HAVE TOLD
ME?

DIDN'T
YOU KNOW
THAT?

IT'S THE
NATIONAL
RELIGION,
THEY WOR-
SHIP
THREE HOLY
WEAPONS.



IF THAT'S
THE
NATIONAL
RELIGION...

THEN THE
SHIELD
MUST BE
EVIL.

HEH
HEH...



NOW I
GET IT.



...I JUST
THOUGHT
YOU
KNEW...



LOOK'S
LIKE THE
SWORD,
SPEAR,
AND
BOW...

THREE
HEROES?







SECOND PRINCESS!



I'LL PROTECT YOU.

COME WITH ME!



...



UNTIE US!

THE SHIELD HERO IS GETTING AWAY!



DASH!

HE'S AB-
DUCTED
THE SECOND
PRINCESS!

BUT MY
CARRIAGE!

GOOD
THING WE
ONLY TOOK
OUR MOST
IMPORTANT
LUGGAGE.

GET
OVER
IT.

WITH A
BOUNTY
ON OUR
HEADS...

WE'D
BETTER
STAY OUT
OF TOWN.

WELL,
ISN'T
THIS
GREAT?

YOU'RE WRONG!
I KNOW THOSE
WERE FATHER'S
KNIGHTS,
BUT...

I...

TRASH
WOULD
SACRIFICE
HIS OWN
DAUGHTER TO
KILL ME.



MELROMARC'S ROYAL FAMILY IS MATRILINEAL. THE QUEEN DECIDES HER SUCCESSOR.

WHAT
WAS
THAT?

WHAT?
WHAT'S
SO
FUNNY?

HEH...
HEH...
HEH...

DON'T
INSULT
FATHER!

MASTER
LOOKS
SO
HAPPY!

はははは

TRASH
MARRIED
INTO ROYALTY!
THAT'S HILAR-
IOUS!

OH, IT'S
FINE — HE
ABANDONED
YOU AFTER
ALL.

F...

FATHER



I JUST
KNOW
IT!

HE
WOULDN'T
ABANDON
ME!



YOU
SHOULDN'T
MAKE
CHILDREN
CRY!

SHE'S THE
SAME AGE
YOU ARE!

MEL-
CHAN,
DON'T
CRY!

THERE
YOU GO!
FINALLY
ACTING
YOUR
AGE!



PUNCH!!
PUNCH!!
PUNCH!!

HE'S
RIGHT,
YOU ARE A
DEMON!



SHE'S TRAVEL-
LING ALL OVER
THE PLACE TO
TRY AND AVOID
A WAR.

I DON'T
KNOW
WHERE SHE
IS RIGHT
NOW...

SNIFF...



FINE...

CAN'T YOUR
MOTHER FIX
ALL THIS?

MOTHER
IS...

**DAMN... THERE'S
STILL SO MUCH I
DON'T KNOW ABOUT
THIS PLACE.**





WHOOOSH

LIAR!

WE'RE NOT
HOLDING
HER
HOSTAGE,
SO WE
CAN'T LET
HER GO.

YOU...

WHOOO-PAM!

WE HAVE
PROOF!

YOU HAVE NO
JUSTICE!

...JUSTICE?

PRINCESS
MELTY,
YOU'RE
SAFE!

HEROES...

WHAT'S
THIS
PROOF YOU
SPEAK OF?

ARE YOU SO
CONFIDENT
THAT IT IS
TRUE??

WHOOOSH



AS YOU CAN
SEE, I AM
SAFE.

THE SHIELD
HERO SAVED
MY LIFE!



WH...
BUT!



WHAT DOES THE
SHIELD HERO
STAND TO GAIN
BY KIDNAPPING
ME?

YOU MUST
BELIEVE ME.
THERE IS A
CONSPIRACY.



THERE'S NO
TIME FOR
THIS KIND OF
THING...

PLEASE,
PUT YOUR
WEAPONS
AWAY.



OH, POOR
MELTY!



YOU'VE BEEN
BRAIN-
WASHED BY
THE SHIELD
DEMON!



OH COME
ON!



BITCH!



HEROES!

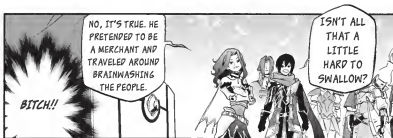


THE CHURCH
SAID THAT
ABOUT A
MONTH
AGO...

A PORTION OF
THE CITIZENRY
HAS BEGUN TO
DEFEND THE
SHIELD DEMON.



YOU MUSTN'T
FORGET,
THE SHIELD
DEMON HAS A
BRAINWASH-
ING SHIELD!





THEY DON'T
EVEN KNOW
HOW IGNO-
RANT THEY
ARE...

THEY'RE
IDIOTS, BUT
REN THANKED
ME FOR
CLEANING UP
HIS MESS,
AND ITSUKI
HAS A SENSE
OF JUSTICE.



...FINE.

WILL EVERY-
THING JUST
GO AS BITCH
PLANS?



ALL I CARE
ABOUT IS
MELTY'S
SAFETY.



IF THAT
WILL PUT
REN'S MIND
AT EASE...

MELTY.

COME
WITH
US...



LET'S
GO
HOME.



NO.





...ALONE!

*SHE'S
JUST
LIKE
I WAS
ON
THAT
DAY...*

PLEASE

...HELP
ME!



...NOT IF YOU
LET YOURSELF
BE CONTROLLED
BY THE LIKES
OF HER!

AND YOU
CAN'T KEEP
HER SAFE.

WE WON'T
GO WITH
YOU.

WHY?!

I PROMISED
TO PROTECT
HER.

SWISH

THE
RISE
OF 5 THE
SHIELD
HERO

THE
MANGA
COMPANION



ARE YOU
SAYING THAT
YOU DON'T
TRUST US?



BE REA-
SONABLE,
NAOFUMI!



YOU'RE A BUNCH
OF CREEPS!



OF
COURSE
I DON'T
TRUST
YOU!



YEAH!



FILO!!

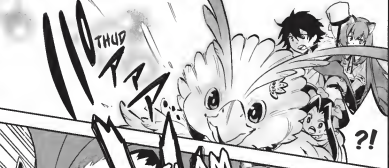


BAFOOON!



WAIT!





CHAPTER 20 THE SECOND PRINCESS'S POWER





UGH...

UGH...



ARG!

AHH!

I CAN'T
GET IT
OFF!

WHAT
IS
THIS
THING?



CHAN!

FILO...







**ZWEITE
AQUA
SLASH!**

SPLOOSH!

NEXT
TIME I'LL
MAKE
SURE IT
HITS!

!!



YOU
BETTER
LET HER
GO!

YOU...



WAIT!
ARE YOU
TRYING
TO KILL
FELO-CHAN?!



FWOOOSH.

ZWEITE
HELLFIRE!



SHIELD
HERO...



MYNE?! ARE
YOU TRYING
TO KILL
PRINCESS
MELTY?!



YOU DON'T
EVEN HOLD
BACK
AGAINST
YOUR OWN
SISTER?



BUT THAT
ATTACK
OF YOURS
LOOKED
LIKE...

MELTY
HAS BEEN
BRAIN-
WASHED!

SHE'S
ALREADY
ATTACKED
MR. MO-
TOYASU!

SHE WANTS
TO KILL THE
SECOND
PRINCESS!

THAT
WOMAN
...

...BECAUSE
THE SECOND
PRINCESS
IS FIRST IN
LINE FOR THE
THRONE.

...WHAT
?!

AS FOR
THE
REST...

I'M SURE
YOU CAN
FIGURE IT
OUT.



GIVE IT
UP.

REN,
ITSUKI!

DON'T
LISTEN
TO HIM!

THE
TRUTH IS
OBVIOUS.



SMIRK

WHO REALLY
NEEDS TO
GIVE UP?



YOU'RE THE
ONE WITH A
BOUNTY ON
YOUR HEAD!

ZING



THE SOLDIERS
AT THE
BORDER MUST
HAVE HEARD
OUR FIGHT BY
NOW.

THEY'LL
BE HERE
ANY
MINUTE.





YOU BRAIN-
WASHING
DEMON!

ARE YOU GOING
TO DIRTY MY
SISTER'S HANDS
FURTHER?



IF THE BRAIN-
WASHING
DOESN'T WEAR
OFF, THEN...



THEN
TRY IT!

NOT
HIDING
THE TRUTH
ANYMORE,
ARE YOU?

IF YOU CAN
GET BY MY
SHIELD!

FWI-POW



IT'S
REACTING
TO REN!

THE DRAGON
CAN'T FORGET
THE PERSON
WHO KILLED
IT!

GWOOO

THAT
SHIELD...

THIS SURE
WOULD BE A
GOOD TIME
FOR HER TO

GO
BERSERK
THOUGH...

BUT FILO DOESN'T
SEEM AFFECTED
BY THE SHIELD
THIS TIME. IS IT
BECAUSE OF THE
FOOT CHAINS?





YOU IDIOTS!
YOU KNOW HOW
POWERFUL
THAT SHIELD
IS!

SELF CURSE
BURNING IS A
COUNTERATTACK
THAT WORKS IN
CLOSE QUARTERS.

"BETTER
FINISH THIS
BEFORE THEY
REALIZE
THAT..."

IRON MAIDEN IS
STRONGER, BUT IT
USES ALL MY SP
AND ONLY WORKS
AGAINST ONE
TARGET.



SIZZLE
H H H





CLANG

SHOOOO



THERE
HE IS!

THE
SHIELD
DEMON
!!





ILLU-
SION...
MAGIC?!



YOU'RE
GETTING OUT
OF CONTROL.
BETTER CALM
DOWN.

POP
キッ



FWOOOOO

EXACTLY.



THE COUN-
TERATTACK
ONLY WORKS
IN CLOSE
QUARTERS
!



NOW'S
OUR
CHANCE!



EH?

YA
AA
AAHHH!



MYNE
?!

THIS SWORD
DOESN'T CUT
PHYSICAL
THINGS.

SHE'S
NOT
DEAD.



ARE YOU
TAKING HER
HOSTAGE!



WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!



TOOK A
HOSTAGE
FIRST.

I THINK
YOU...







YEAH!
THANKS
FOR THE
GLOVES,
BIG SIS!

SLUMP

ARE YOU
ALRIGHT
FILO?!



I THOUGHT
SHE
COULDN'T
FIGHT...



STOP
ATTACKING
NOW AND WE
WILL...

LISTEN
UP!



FWOOOOOOOSH



WHO
WAS
THAT?!



RAPHTA-
LIA!



SAVE
THE
PRIN-
CESS!

SAVE THE
CITIZENS
FROM THE
DEMON
BEFORE
YOU!

KILL
THEM!

KILL
THEM
ALL!

FWOOSH

WHY DON'T
THEY THINK
FOR THEM-
SELVES?

FOOLS...

CRACK

THE
FOOLS...

FWOOOOOSH!

SHATTER









OVER
THERE.



SHAD-
OW!
ARE
YOU
THERE
?

NO
ONE IS
FOLLOW-
ING US.



WHERE HAVE
YOU BEEN?
LOOK AT
ALL THAT'S
HAPPENED
TO THE
PRINCESS!



PRINCEZZ
MELTY, HOW
DID YOU KNOW
IT WAS ME?



?!
YOU
WERE...

I TOLD YOU
THEY ARE
MASTERS
OF
DISGUISE.







THAT THEY ARE
EMPLOYING SUCH
WEAK EXPLA-
NATIONS LIKE
"BRAINWASH-
ING" ZPEAKS TO
THAT.

THE CHURCH
IS TROUBLED
BY YOUR
RECENT
SUCCESSIONS.



I CANNOT
TELL YOU
THAT, ZIR.

WHY SHOULD
I MEET WITH
THE QUEEN?



BUT THINK
IT OVER,
ZIR.



YOU'LL
FORCE US TO
COOPERATE?

YOU DO NOT
HAVE TO
BELIEVE WHAT
I SAY...

...FINE.

IF WE FACE
THE SAME
RISK NO
MATTER
WHERE WE
GO...

I'LL MEET
WITH THE
QUEEN.

SHHH
THEN I WILL
LEAVE YOU
FOR NOW,
ZIR.

YOU'RE
NOT
COMING
WITH US?

THEN I MIGHT
AS WELL MESS
THIS PLAY UP
SOME MORE.

SHADOWS
HAVE
WORK OF
THEIR
OWN.



SECOND
PRINCESS.

HERE...

WAIT A
SECOND!

ME TOO!
ME
TOOOOO!

I'LL MAKE
YOU A BIG
ONE.

UM...



...THAT.

WHAT, YOU
DON'T LIKE
IT?

MEL-
CHAN?

SECOND
PRINCESS.



WHAT?

I HAVE
A NAME,
YOU
KNOW!



STOP
CALLING
ME
THAT!!



SO CALL
ME BY MY
NAME,
TOO!

FINE, I'LL
CALL YOU
NAOFUMI!

YOU CALL
ME SHIELD
HERO.



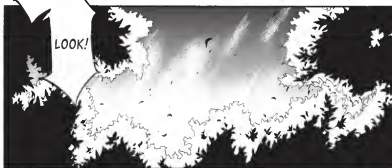
DON'T TREAT
ME DIFFER-
ENTLY...



WE'RE ALL
IN THIS
TOGETHER!

WE'RE...











Stop. This is the end. The extra stories start on page 163.

“Let’s go!”

I wanted to get to the next town before sunset.

“Holy Saint.”

Nice Guy was standing by the carriage, and he called out to me.

“Yes?”

“Where are you off to?”

“To the next town. I hope to make it there before nightfall.”

There were a number of nearby towns.

I wanted to sell off the remaining medicines before night.

“Then you should make for my town. It’s nice.”

His carriage fell into line behind us, and we made our way to his town.

There were a lot of demi-human adventurers around. It would be easy to sell off our remaining supplies.

We sold out quickly, so I decided to buy up the medicinal herbs in town and head to the next village.

“Holy Saint.”

It was Nice Guy again.

“Yes?”

“Good luck with your business.”

He smiled and waved goodbye.

“Sure thing.”

What was his deal?

It would remain a mystery. I called out to Filo, and the carriage rattled on.



“Ha ha ha! You won’t win that easily! 220!”

The plump man immediately raised the price.

After that, the bidding went on. Each person raised it by only one or two silver.

Then Nice Guy pushed his glasses up his nose (he liked to do that). And said...

“320.”

“Wh...?”

The other noblemen were speechless.

It was now more than six times the market price. I was shocked too.

“Not enough? Then let’s make it 340.”

Nice Guy had already raised the price, but he raised it higher, shocking the room.

“I can’t wait for our next party. Yes, I’ve always wanted something like this. This broach is special—much nicer than the others.”

“Argh! So that was your plan!”

Nice Guy had wanted the last item, so he had raised the price so high that no one else could take it. Was that it?

Granted, the stone was very clear, and cut and polished well.

“350!”

“360. No, wait... 380.”

“Argh....”

The plump man finally gave up.

That was reasonable—the price had become absurd.

“Looks like I won.”

“You... Argh... I...”

But the nobleman’s servant stepped over and whispered in his ear.

He finally came to his senses. Straightening his jacket, he composed himself and left the room.

Nice Guy handed me the appropriate gold and silver, and I gave him the broach.

“Th... thank you very much. That concludes our meeting today.”

I finished with three times more money than I’d expected.

Auctions are magical.

I was thrilled with how it had gone. I left the mansion and boarded the carriage.



Nice Guy smiled, thinking he'd won, and turned condescendingly to the others.

"This is a lot of money to you all now? That doesn't sound good..."

"What was that?!"

"Are we not the nobility of Melromarc? Does nobility sweat over 187 silver? Is this not the place to show our wealth? I looked into your eyes at the last party though, so I realize you may have hit a ceiling."

I thought the price had just gone too high for them, but...

"Argh... 200!"

The angry plump man shouted.

Nice Guy turned, apparently no longer interested.

"Ha ha ha! I've won this time!"

The man looked very pleased with himself for beating Nice Guy, but when I handed him the necklace he did a double-take.

He looked like he couldn't believe how much money he'd just spent.

To explain it from a Japanese perspective, it was like he couldn't tell the difference between agate and amber, and accidentally bought the cheaper one for three times its value.

But it only lasted a second.

"I'll buy the next one too!"

The nobility was very loose with their purse strings.

So we kept going with the auction, and I sold most of the pieces for at least double their market value.

"This is the last item I will show today."

I made it sound important and brought out a broach.

I'd made it from an amethyst.

"120."

Nice Guy bid before I could even announce the price.

...Which was fine, because I was going to start the bidding at 100.

On the market it was probably worth 50.

I had to keep my wits about me. I couldn't get sucked into the chaos of the auction.





With any luck, it would reach 200.

But I didn't want to let the bidding get exhausted right in the beginning either. If the competition started to wane, I would push the sale and move on.

"145!"

... The speed was slowing down. The room grew quiet.

It was time to close the deal.

"150!"

Nice Guy shouted and adjusted his glasses.

The nobleman that had called out 145 looked irritated and quickly raised his hand.

"170!"

"180."

Nice Guy raised his bid immediately.

I wondered if 180 silver was just pocket change to the nobility.

Regardless, it was now 100 silver over the market price, which was definitely good for me.

Maybe I could get the bidding war to heat up even more.

"The ruby in this necklace was mined from a very famous mountain and has been verified to be of the highest quality by a leading accessory craftsman."

I waved a certificate that the accessory dealer had given me to make it look official.

Apparently he had made a name for himself in the area.

...But he'd never seen that ruby.

They didn't seem too concerned with the certificate though.

"183!"

"185."

Another party suddenly showed interest.

"187."

"You'd bid that on a cheap piece of jewelry like that?"

Had I pushed it too far?

If I had, then I wouldn't get good prices for the rest.

"Well, well..."





our Holy Saint here. We are not starving chattel.”

He was telling off the others, and he didn’t seem worried about it.

Sure. Based on his appearance and the way he was acting, I decided to privately call him Nice Guy.

I didn’t know his name, and I didn’t care enough to ask.

“Why don’t we all bid on each item, one at a time, auction style?”

“An excellent idea.”

I flashed that salesman smile.

“Ehhehh...”

A grumpy-looking older man didn’t seem too thrilled with Nice Guy’s suggestion.

I guess they weren’t all friends.

“Now then, starting from the right side...”

I waved my hand in front of my pieces.

“This is a ruby necklace. The ruby was of exceptional quality in its rough state, so I was very careful when I cut and polished it. You can see how successful I was at preserving its best qualities. As for the price... well, basing it on the quality of the ruby, let’s start at 70 silver, shall we?”

I set the price low to get them interested. That should drive the price higher as they compete.

If one of them was a businessman, then I’d set the price higher.

I’d tell them that it was a one of a kind piece, or something like that.

If you act like you’re going to put the piece away because of disinterest—that gets people interested too.

I judged the crowd and started with 70.

They started bidding immediately.

“75!”

“80!”

“90!”

If the price went over 100 silver, we would switch to gold. That probably wouldn’t be necessary on an item like this though. They would end up paying me in silver regardless.

“120!”

“140!”

There, it had reached double the opening price.





This whole job was like selling silver jewelry out in front of the train station.

Alright. Time for my business smile.

After all, I had to make sure they didn't realize I was the Shield Hero. "Thank you very much for having me over today. I do not know if my wares will meet your exacting standards, but please have a look."

I tried to really play up the humble artisan role. People liked that.

The world was suffering under the devastation of the waves, but the nobility was more worried about fashionable jewelry. What a bunch of creeps.

Okay, back to work.

If I was able to sell all of it for a good price, I could afford new equipment for my whole party.

And raising the price of things was easy.

The problem was the original materials I'd used.

With my unique designs I could definitely sell them for double market value, but that was about it.

And if I raised the price too high, then the customers would start paying close attention—which is never a good thing.

"I like this one!"

"This one is splendid!"

"I like this! The feathers are lovely!"

"This is the one for me!"

And so on. The crowd gathered around and picked out the pieces they liked best.

With the number of people speaking up...yup, I should hit my target easily.

"Just a second."

One of them was standing a few steps behind the others. He spoke in a clear voice and stepped forward. He was young and looked intelligent. He had long hair and wore glasses.

The other nobles turned around when he spoke, looking a little upset.

"You shouldn't all point and shout at the same time—you'll confuse







I'd made a number of pieces out of jewels the accessory dealer had led me to.

Of course the nobility didn't care about a piece's function. They were only concerned with its design.

I based the design off of things that had been fashionable back in Japan.

They were the sort of things you saw in gift shops here and there. One of them was set with glass beads to look like a dragon and sword design.

It definitely wasn't perfect, but it was good enough—they probably wouldn't notice the flaws.

They mostly noticed how polished and shiny the jewels were. I made a point of cutting and polishing them well.

Since I was pretending to be a saint of the bird god, I also made some pieces that had a filial queen motif. Those were especially popular.

However, I didn't have any jewels that were actually worth very much, so I used cheap stones.

I'd heard, even before I was summoned to this world, that heating sapphire made it more colorful.

The accessory dealer had taught me how to use the tools here, and using them to heat the stones made a big difference in the final product.

Anyway, the pieces I chose to show them all looked good enough.

And—this is important—I made them to emphasize the designs, and not to imbue them with special effects.

I laid them out on the table, shiny, gaudy things that new-money type people would go for.

I'd used Filo's feathers to make some things. People liked that kind of thing.

I used feathers after they'd fallen out. Filo stared at me when I picked them up.

"Hm?"

...Was pretty much how she'd reacted.

Considering Filo, she probably didn't really think anything about it.





We finished bathing and eating and got back on the road—careful to stay out of sight.

The Shield Hero's Accessory Deals

I was traveling around pretending to be a saint of the bird god, when a nobleman got word of my accessory dealing business and summoned me to his mansion.

Raphtalia and Filo stayed outside and sold food and medicine while I was busy inside.

“Holy Saint, you came!”

The man that summoned me was a real aristocrat, and he had brought a number of other people with him.

Apparently some of my accessories were appraised quite highly among the nobility—though honestly the pieces weren’t all that great.

The accessory dealer was probably pulling some strings for me.

They were praising my designs.

So my work was popular enough that a nobleman called for a meeting with me directly.

“What do you have for us today? Show me!”

“Yes! Show us!”

I reached to pull some accessories from my bag. One of the fatter noblemen leaned in, impatient for a look.

He was annoying. I needed time to pick what I wanted to sell.

It had to be something showy.

They might have been nobility, but they weren’t very refined. I’d pick something cheap and sell it for a high price.

But... had they really not figured out who I was?

Well, I had changed my outfit and turned my shield into the Book Shield—I might be hard to recognize.

I pulled out a jeweled accessory I’d made the night before.

ruby necklace
quality: good





"Yes... It makes me feel a little nostalgic to remember it."

"Why are you covering your chest? Is Naofumi looking?"

Why did she assume that I was looking?

There could have been anyone out there peeping on them.

Like the shadow, or Motoyasu.

I could picture Motoyasu hiding in the bushes. He was such a pervert.

"Master! Doncha wanna see us naked?"

"Why do I have to? Leave me alone! Look, I got the fire ready, so come dry off when you're done!"

I yelled back, careful not to look.

"Maybe I'll watch master when HE'S bathing!"

"What are you saying, Filo?!"

"Filo-chan, what do you mean?"

Now they were really getting crazy.

If that's how they were going to be, I'd better not bathe at all.

"Isn't it fun to watch people when they're naked?"

I thought I heard Melty scream.

In Filo's defense, from the way Melty was talking about it, she probably would assume it was fun.

"No Filo-chan. Peeping is a terrible crime that men do. They look at naked women and get so excited that they can't control themselves."

"Huh? No one's supposed to see me? But I wanna take baths with master! Mel-chan, you should join us!"

"Um..."

Raphtalia sounded like she wasn't sure what to do.

"No thank you!"

"But..."

"Well, um... Let's talk about it after we get Melty safely to where the queen is."

Good cover, Raphtalia.

"Huff... Very well then. So Naofumi doesn't peep—that's enough for now."

Melty never brought the topic up again. I guess she had other things to think about.







"And are you so sure about that? I don't know!"

I ignored Melty's complaints and walked downstream. There I washed up my kitchen tools and started cooking.

Melty, realizing I'd completely ignored her, went on whining to Raphtalia. The three of them moved further upstream and started bathing.

I'd told them to keep one person on shore to watch the equipment.

"Hey, Raphtalia? Why are you so sure that Naofumi wouldn't peep on us?"

She was still harping on it. She needed to get over it.

"Yes, well... Mr. Naofumi went through a lot of hard times because of your sister."

"That's... true."

If she knew that, she could show me some understanding.

I wanted to interject something, but I realized that any form of engagement would make me look bad. I ignored them and went on cooking.

...Maybe I'd just clean myself up with my hand towel.

"And you know..."

Raphtalia continued, louder.

"If Mr. Naofumi was the type to peep on girls, he would have peeped on me the first day he bought me as a slave when he made me take a bath."

Whoops! I was sitting, but I still managed to slip and fall over on the riverbed.

What was she saying?

She was right—she'd been really dirty so I ordered her to get cleaned up.

"...And he didn't look?"

"No, not a single glance. He just worked on crafting medicines and cooked. He did check to make sure I was clean afterwards."

"...You showed him that much?"

I felt like Melty was glaring at me.

"He didn't look at me like THAT. He was just checking to make sure I was clean. At first I didn't know what he was like, so I was scared."

"Y...you were?"





Extra Stories

Bath Time

“Hey, I can hear water!”

I listened closely and sure enough I could hear a stream babbling in the distance.

I looked over at Raptalia.

I guess we had all gotten a little dirty.

Ever since we’d been on the run with Melty, we hadn’t had enough time to bathe.

We couldn’t spend any time around people or in towns, and we had tried to escape Motoyasu and the others by using animal trails through the wilderness.

“It doesn’t look like anyone is on our tail for now. You two are really dirty, go wash up.”

“Bath time?”

Filo was really excited.

Good. We needed to blow off some steam.

“Keep an eye out for enemies and go get cleaned up.”

We walked in the direction of the stream, but ended up coming upon a small spring along the way.

I’d let the girls bathe first, then I’d just rinse my sweat off.

I wanted to wash up my kitchen utensils downstream anyway, and if I was going to do that I might as well do some cooking too. There was no one around, so we’d probably be safe.

I turned to head downstream from the girls when I caught Melty giving me a suspicious glare.

“Are you going to peep on us while we are bathing?”

“Peeping? Ha! Who would want to see you three naked?”

“How dare you!”

Didn’t she have more important things to worry about?

What kind of guy did she take me for?

“Melty, please calm down. I don’t think Mr. Naofumi would peep on us.”





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